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By: Delegates Marriott, Hubbard, Montgomery, Edwards, Aumann, Cardin, Cryor, C. Davis, Heller, Hixson, Howard, Kaiser, Morhaim, Patterson,

Ramirez, and Zirkin

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2004

Assigned to: Ways and Means

## A BILL ENTITLED

4	AT	1 000	•
1	AN	ACT	concerning

_	ası	K ]	Force	on	Inclusive	Child	anc	ı Aiter	-School	C	are	1

- 3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Inclusive Child and After-School
- Care; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Governor to 4
- designate the chair of the Task Force; requiring the Child Care Administration 5
- to coordinate the staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting certain persons from the 6
- 7 receipt of certain compensation, and authorizing the reimbursement of certain
- 8 expenses; authorizing the Task Force to consult with certain persons; requiring
- the Task Force to hold public forums for certain purposes; requiring the Task 9
- Force to review certain literature and research; requiring the Task Force to 10
- 11 develop certain information for the Governor and General Assembly; requiring
- the Task Force to assist the Governor and State agencies in implementing 12
- certain recommendations; authorizing the Task Force to take certain action; 13
- providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task 14 Force on Inclusive Child and After-School Care.
- 15

16 Preamble

- 17 WHEREAS, There are an estimated 1,377,380 children and youth with
- 18 disabilities and special health care needs ages birth through 21 in Maryland; and
- 19 WHEREAS, The Child Care Administration and other State agencies have made
- 20 efforts to increase the availability and quality of child and after-school care for
- 21 children and youth with disabilities and special health care needs, yet families of
- 22 children and youth with disabilities and special health care needs continue to
- 23 experience discrimination; and
- 24 WHEREAS, Quantitative and qualitative data indicate that there are systemic
- 25 barriers to families of children and youth with disabilities and special health care
- 26 needs obtaining and maintaining quality inclusive child care for their children; and
- 27 WHEREAS, Families of children and youth with disabilities and special health
- 28 care needs who are unable to obtain and maintain child care for their children are
- 29 experiencing financial hardship and family stress; and

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(10)

(11)

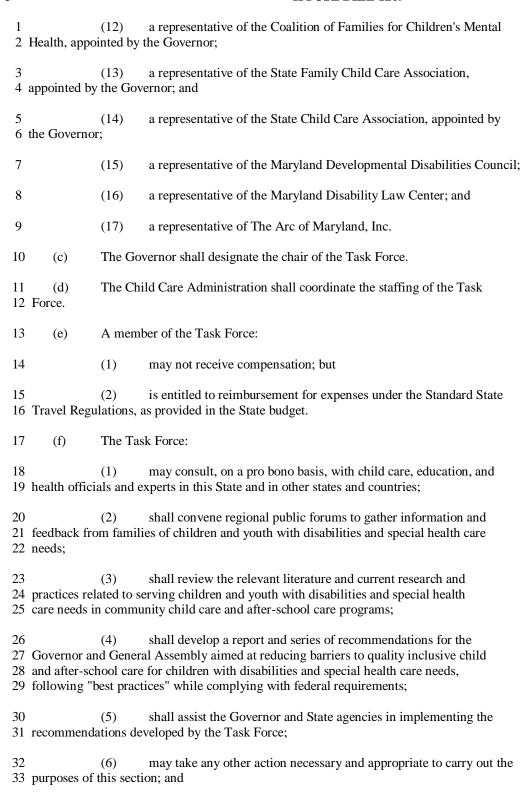
32 by the Governor;

**HOUSE BILL 1289** 1 WHEREAS, Child care professionals working with children and families need to 2 understand their ethical and legal responsibilities to serve children with disabilities 3 and special health care needs; and 4 WHEREAS, Child care professionals need the appropriate knowledge and skills 5 to care for children with disabilities and special health care needs; and 6 WHEREAS, There is a need for interagency coordination to increase the 7 capacity of Maryland's child care system to serve children and youth with disabilities 8 and special health care needs; now, therefore, 9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 10 MARYLAND, That: 11 (a) There is a Task Force on Inclusive Child and After-School Care. 12 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members: 13 one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of (1) 14 the Senate; 15 one member of the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed by the (2) 16 Speaker of the House; 17 (3) the Director of the Child Care Administration, or the Director's 18 designee; the Special Secretary of the Governor's Office for Children, Youth, 19 20 and Families, or the Special Secretary's designee; 21 (5) the Director of the Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities, 22 or the Director's designee; 23 the Director of the Developmental Disabilities Administration, or the (6)24 Director's designee; 25 (7) the Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration, or the Director's 26 designee; 27 the State Assistant Superintendent for Special Education, or the (8) 28 State Assistant Superintendent's designee; 29 (9)four family members of children and youth with disabilities or special 30 health care needs, appointed by the Governor;

a representative of the Maryland Committee for Children, appointed

a representative of Abilities Network, appointed by the Governor;

## **HOUSE BILL 1289**



- 1 (7) shall report its findings, activities, and recommendations to the
- 2 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the
- 3 General Assembly on or before July 1, 2005.
- 4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 5 July 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the
- 6 end of August 1, 2005, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
- 7 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.